BOILING POINT

A HARDCORE FANZIN



INTERVIEWS WITH JUDGE AND INSIDE OUT.

ARTICLES...$1.00

#4



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This one is a little different. We have somewhat abandoned our normal format due to a lack of time (we really wanted to have this issue out during the weeks prior to Earth Day 1990). You're probably going to notice as you read your way through issue four that there are no record, tape or fanzine reviews to be found. This will be a one time only absence. All of our future issues will contain these sections, and for #5, we will do our best not to overlook any of the releases that have come out during the months since B.P. #3 was printed. We apologize to any bands, zines or readers who may have been expecting reviews. It'll be there next time around.

To our family, friends, the bands, and you for supporting us, and to everyone who put me (Dennis) up or helped make my trip to California so rad, dude, and all the great folks and new friends in Seattle that have helped make my move here such a smooth transition...THANK YOU!!!



I don't want to see people hurting people but I refuse to close my eyes
So in front of me I see ugly people seething and believing ugly lies

And yes, of course, I'm scared of being hurt
And yes, of course, I'm scared of being wrong
But at the same time my silence will convict me and the evil will carry on

If I can do some good I want to do it
If I have a choice I want to make it
It's my human responsibility that life lives,
selfishness gives, and death becomes natural

So you can stay cool behind your window and choose the view you want to see
But as long as there are others held captive
Do not consider yourself free

EMBRACE

Complacency. We've all been guilty of it at one time or another. Sometimes the problems of this country, this world, this earth, this society can seem like entirely too much to take on, a hopeless no win situation. We feel depressed and overwhelmed. The thought process shuts off and inactivity consumes us. Other times we are so caught up in our own personal ups and downs that everything else is shut out. Most of the time we are lazy. We think that something concerns us yet we do not do anything about it. We put off any action that we might take. Whatever the cause, we all sometimes find ourselves taking much more than we're giving back.

It's much easier to keep living our lives the way they are than to rearrange or alter them to exist in a more idealistic manner. It's much easier to buy a book, record, magazine, or drawing that others have created than to create it ourselves. It's much easier to go to a show or benefit or rally than it is to organize one yourself. But it's not enough. By the same token it could be said that it is easier to brush off a sexist and racist society than it is to question and confront it. Convenience breeds complacency.

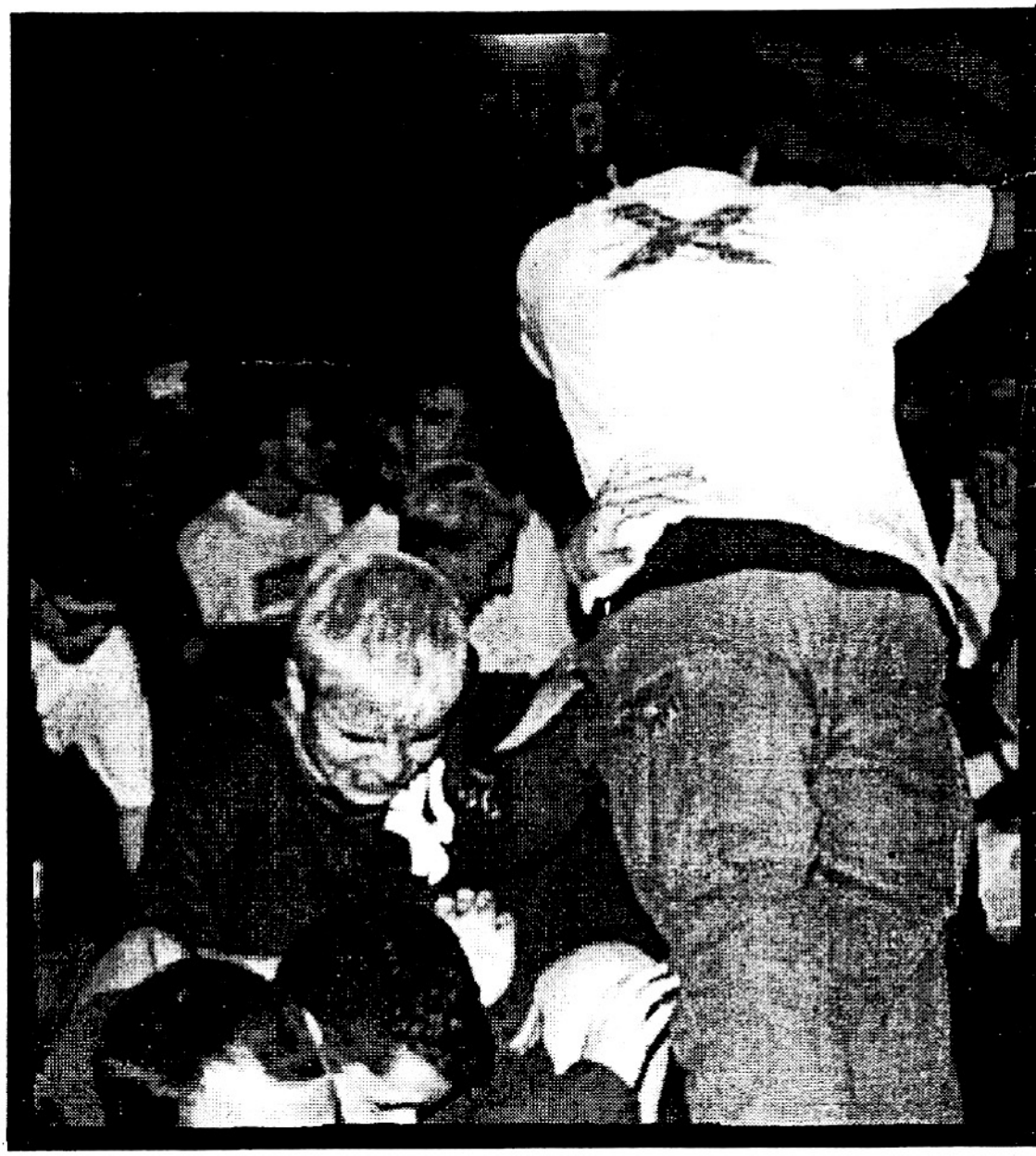
It is not enough to only listen to or read or look at what others have contributed. It's not enough to clap and cheer when a strong statement is made. It's not enough to watch the evening news or read the morning paper. It's not enough to only look out for #1. We have to create and express ourselves as well or our minds will grow stale. And we have to expend every effort to try to live our lives as free of cruelty and prejudice as possible, and in harmony with the earth and the other creatures that inhabit it. We can no longer hide in the veil of conditioning that society throws around us. The only other choice is to become one of society's robots and that is definitely not enough.

We have to fight this complacency. We all need to give something back. So whether your form of communication is writing or music or art or whether it's being a vegetarian or environmentally and socially conscious, we all have to try to make and continue to make contributions to an alternative to society's master plan. An alternative that demands, "no, I'm not just going to live with the lies and the way things are, and I want my lifestyle to be an expression of this." Each and everyone of us has to get involved and not just be an observer. Each and everyone of us must teach and learn, create and support. Fight complacency every day. We are nothing but the victims of what others do if we do not do something ourselves.

Dennis

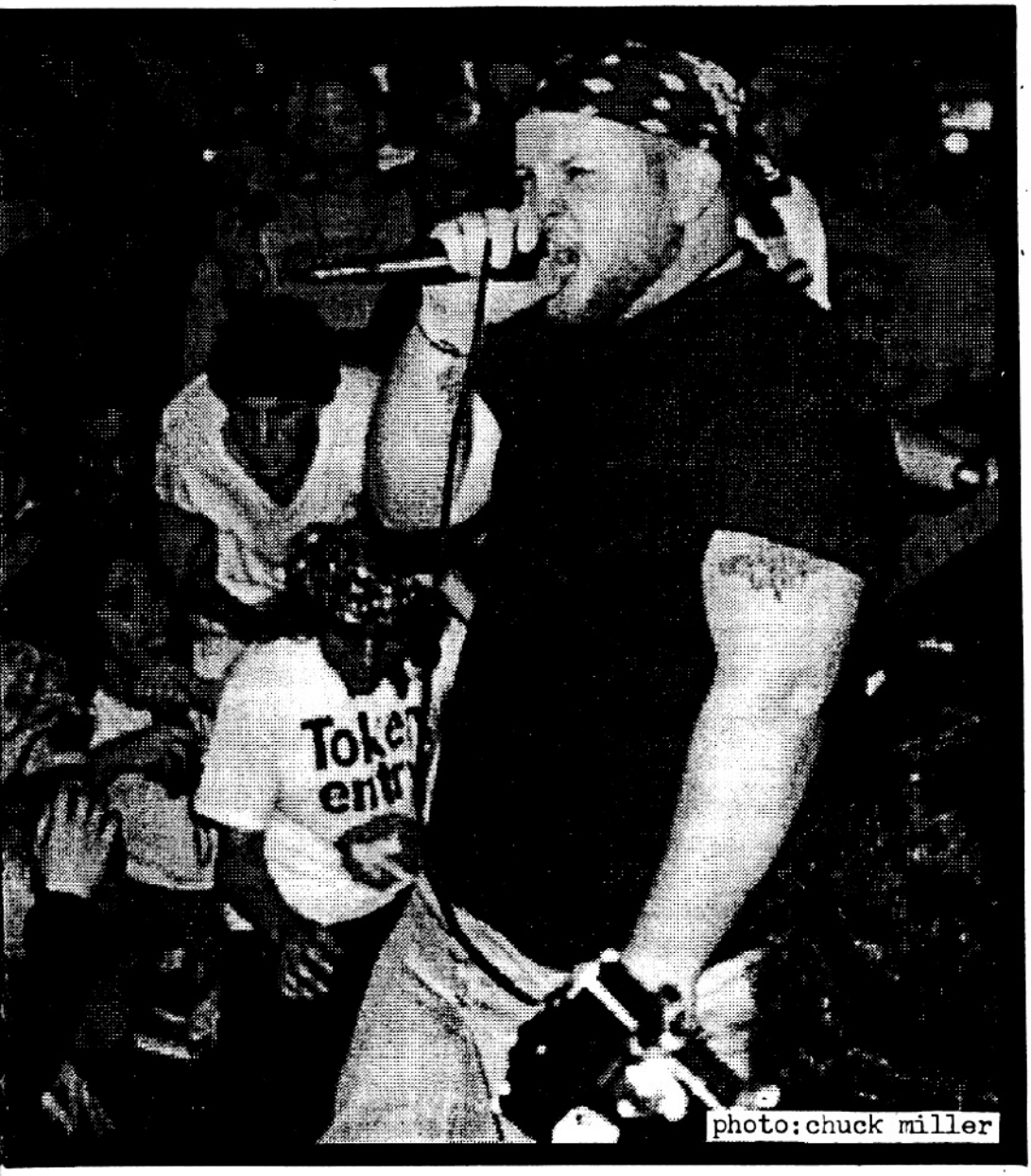
JUDGE

Mike and Porcell from JUDGE were interviewed about a month and a half ago at the Anthrax in CT by Tim and Tom. Also present were Chuck Miller (X-Claim Fanzine) and Adam from LIFESBLOOD/BORN AGAINST.



BP: OK, now that the LP is finally out, are you guys happy with the revamped version?
P: Sure I am. I think it's great.
BP: It seems so much different than the Chung King version.
P: I don't think so one bit. It's the same songs. It's only got one different song on it. I don't know why everyone's like, "the METAL version!" It's like Chung King with good production, so people say it's metal. I don't get it.
C: It does sound metal though. You can pull leads out of it that are metal. It's not like a metal record...
P: You can pull leads out of the ANTIDOTE record that are metal too. I don't see everyone crying to them, "You fuckin - you guys sound metal!"
BP: Are a lot of people crying to you about it?
P: No. I don't know, I personally just don't really think it's that metal. I mean, if people want to say it's metal or whatever... I just thought it was good. I just thought it was step better than the Chung King. I mean in every way.
BP: Shows wise, are you going to stop playing hardcore bills?
P: Would you listen to this?!
BP: I heard you guys were going to be playing more metal bills.
M: This is all news to me.
P: I actually would like to play some metal shows if we could get on them. I'd like to play any type of show.
BP: Yeah. Wouldn't you like to mix the bills up more? (four straight edge bands played tonight: JUDGE, INTENSITY etc.)
P: I'm all for that. It just seems that lately, every show that we're headlining, we get there and there's three straight edge bands on the bill. To tell you the truth, with JUDGE - I mean with YOUTH OF TODAY we were a straight edge band all the way - but I mean with JUDGE I thought it was so cool that when we finally got in JUDGE it was like a different band. It was weird because we would play shows and the audience was mixed and everyone would still like us. It wasn't just like a room full of straight edge kids. It was weird, it was a mixture. It was like metal kids, skinheads...
BP: What's the point of playing an all s.e. bill? I mean, they're the only kids that are going to be at the show.
P: I know. It just kind of sucks that lately we've been headlining all these shows and that's how it just turned out. I mean, if we could open for a metal band or any other kind of band like that, I'd be into doing that too. It's not that we're trying to sell out and be heavy metal and be big. It's just that I'd love to play with all different types of bands.
BP: How about you Mike?
M: I feel the same way. I'll play anywhere, now that I'm playing Boston.
BP: When's this Boston show going to be?
P: We don't even know if we're on the bill.
BP: Who might you be playing with?
M: LEEWAY and SUPERTOUCH.
P: At the Rat.
BP: Oh really, at the Rat? The Rat's having shows again?
P: Yeah, I'd be so psyched to play the Rat again. I love that place.
M: I never played the Rat.
BP: Have you played any metal shows yet or no?
P: We haven't played one.

NOW I'M STRONGER, SO MUCH STRONGER
AND I'LL CONFRONT MYSELF
I'LL LIVE AND LEARN AND LOVE IT
I'M NOT AFRAID TO CHANGE MYSELF



BP: How come you put out 100 Chung Kings?
P: Because by the time that we decided that we just wanted to do the whole thing over again Jordan already had it mastered and plated. So the plates were already made so we were like, "Shit, we might as well just run a few records off of it."
BP: Was there any particular reason?
P: Just for the novelty of it. We wanted to hear how it would sound.
BP: How do you feel about the fact that kids are paying $250 for it?
P: Record collectors are crazy man. I was a crazy record collector myself.
BP: You never paid $250 for anything did you?
P: No, but I've done a lot. I don't know - even when I collected records I was never into paying for the record. That was the whole fun of collecting records: you trade and you do stuff like that. I would never pay $250 for a record.
BP: What are your views on the NY scene these days with CBGB's closing and stuff.
P: I don't know man. I don't think NY has much of a scene. It's kind of sad in a way.
M: It's good CB's closed. NY was getting bad anyway. Maybe it'll shape up now.
P: You can never tell though because NY always goes through its stages. It's shitty three months and then it will get good. Usually, in the winter it gets bad and then by the summer it picks up. You can never tell with NY.
C: Do you guys still consider yourself a big part of the hardcore scene?
P: Sure. I think so. I consider the music scene. It's been bumming me out a lot lately that people have been coming up to me and being like, "Yeah, JUDGE is trying to go for the metal audience. Yeah, you want headbangers at your show." It doesn't matter to me. I think it would be great if more metal head kids came to the shows. I don't even really see the difference between really aggressive metal and hardcore. It's all underground music. It's stupid to say this band's a hardcore band, this band's a thrash metal band. It's stupid. AGNOSTIC FRONT were right. Bring all the metalhead kids in.
BP: The new record has conflicting portrayals of violence. Like "Bringin' it Down" has got the mention of the "hammer". Then there's the song about not using fists thrown over words.
P: I don't really think "Bringin' It Down" is about violence.
BP: It's got violent overtones I think. Well, you could clear it up.
M: "Bringin' It Down" says if someone comes to me and wants to start with me because of what I do then I'm not going to turn around and walk away. That's what "Bringin' It Down" is. "Hear Me" is telling the guy I don't want to do it. "Bringin' It Down" is saying I don't want to do it, but if you do it to me I'm going to do it back to you.
BP: What about the 7"?
M: The 7" was a different part of my life.
BP: Yeah? Are there any regrets about it?
M: Not at all. It's just a different part of my life.
BP: What did you mean by that? (no reply) How does it feel playing "NY Crew" to a bunch of 12 year old CT kids jumping around?
M: It feels very weird. I was thinking about that tonight. It's really strange - every time I do it.
BP: It seems like a really

M: I'm talking about the times when I was in Y.O.T. playing New York City and the kids, how they were just like, "Yeah, we're the new kids now." Some of them were trying to play off like they were old school. And they'd treat everyone like shit. It's just my way of saying, "You're trying to play off like you're old school, but you know nothing of what it was like." And that's that.

BP: OK, since you both have past ties with Y.O.T., how do you feel about, like, the whole Ray thing where he'll go down to shows in D.C. (to preach Krsna) and the MRR interview. The flack he gets..

P: Hey man, Ray's my friend and I'll support him 100%. I think he believes in what he's doing and that's better than half the people out there that are complaining about him.

A: There are a lot of fucked up people out there who believe in what they're doing. Tom Metzger believes in what he's doing.

P: True. I think Ray believes in what he's doing; I don't think Ray's going around preaching hate like Tom Metzger.

A: Krsna preaches hate towards certain groups of people like homosexuals.

C: I don't think it's hate. What I've read about it, it doesn't seem like hate.

BP (Tim): It's hate going through the back door.

A: Yeah, "We'll preach forgiveness to somebody who repents against their sinful, worldly life."

C: Yeah true.

P: I don't know.

BP (Tim): I understand, but I've read the Gita (the Krsna bible, so to speak) and the bottom line of that book is if you kill, it's OK to kill if you do it out of devotion to Krsna without any worldly attachments to the thought of killing-

P: I don't know that much about Krsna.

BP (Tim): What do you think about its infiltration into the hardcore scene? Not necessarily Krsna, just the whole idea of religion in the hardcore scene. It seems to go against what hardcore is about. It's a prescribed thought, hardcore should be about free thought.

P: I don't know, maybe some people are better off with it. I look at people like Eric Casanova who I knew personally was a fucking nut and he used to frickin' kill people - I used to be in fear of my life. And now he's this quiet, sedate person. At least... I don't know, I'm still confused about it myself.

BP (Tim): I mean, that's pretty scary, man. If they get some fucked leader in the Krsna thing saying we'll go out and kill all the homosexuals, they would fuckin' do it - I bet half of them. I think that's pretty scary.

P: I'm not here to stick up for Krsna or anything like that because I'm not involved in it. Maybe it's just emotional, but Ray's my friend and I'm sick of people bagging on him. It really pisses me off.

photo: chuck



BP: Are you going to do "NY Crew" in Boston if you play?
M: Fuck yeah. No reason to stop playing it just because we're in Boston.
BP: So are you guys going to tour at all? I know you (Mike) don't really like to tour.
M: I don't really like touring, but I will if I have to (laughter). But, personally, I just don't like it. It's just never satisfying.
BP: You might get more mixed bills.
P: I'd love to go on tour, but I'm just going to try and write a new record for now.
BP: Is JUDGE just an outlet for your own personal thoughts and opinions or is it another way to supplement your income and-
P: I wish. I'm fuckin' $9000 in debt. I don't call that supplementing my income.
C: How's the record selling?
P: It's selling pretty good as far as Jordan tells us. It's sort of too early to tell.
BP: What about this rumour that Lars (from UPPERCUT) is joining the band after Ryan (CHAIN OF STRENGTH) takes off.
M: No comment on my part.
P: We don't know yet. Could be.
BP: Would a new member of JUDGE have to be s.e. and vegetarian?
M: Not in my book. I don't know about the other guys, but they never let me in on any of their secrets so...
P: Well if Mike would come to practice maybe we would tell him.
M: I don't come to practice because I don't know who's going to be playing in the band when I get there.
C: Why, or are JUDGE all vegetarians?
M: I eat fish, so I guess that counts me out, so you might as well ask Porcell.
P: Why am I a vegetarian personally?
BP: Is JUDGE for animal rights at all or is it just personal? Is it a personal issue in the band or is it a band issue?
P: I'd have to say it's a personal issue in the band so far since we don't really sing about it.
BP: (To Mike) Why are you so opposed to touring?
M: I'm not opposed to touring.
P: He's fucking lazy, man!
M: It's not that at all, it's just I have a lot of responsibilities at home. These guys don't, they live on their own. I don't, my family is falling apart. My old man, he can't walk. These guys don't understand. They go, "Oh, we got a show, blow off work." Blow off work for rehearsals or blow off work for shows - I just can't do it on the spur of the moment. I work at night so I can work at my house during the day. I wouldn't mind touring to California, but Europe; as far as I'm concerned, I'm not going. I don't want to go. I'll do it when I want to do it.
P: He means he'll think about it, he'll think it over.
BP: Did you ever intend JUDGE to be what it is now?
M: I didn't think it was going to be like this.
P: God, never.
M: I wasn't even planning to put out a record. It was just for my friends at home to listen to... and a few other things too, but those are private.
BP: Like "I've Lost"?
M: A little bit of everything. There's a lot more to that record than just those typical five songs.
P: Sean's kicking us out.



photo: chuck

BECAUSE I'VE SEEN IT BEFORE
FISTS THROWN OVER WORDS
AND I FOUGHT BEFORE
AND IT NEVER CHANGED A THING

I N S I D



INSIDE OUT are inspiring. It's hard not to be caught up in the emotion that is released when they play. They are a "live" band. Records will spread their music and message, but they have to be seen in order to appreciate their full effect on people. However, without a record currently in release, they still remain a relatively well kept secret, but word of mouth has been strong and has gotten their name out there. It's not likethe people in this band are unfamiliar, though. They have played in some of the best bands hardcore has had to offer recently. INSIDE OUT are very directed in the message they emphasize. We all hide behind so many masks, and what we physically are, that the real person inside can become lost. How can we really hope to accomplish anything if we can't even be ourselves? Let the emotions and feelings that actually make us what we truly are come to the surface. Do not lose what you are in the dredge that is society. This then, is INSIDE OUT's burning fight.

BP: Maybe you should introduce yourselves and just say what other bands you guys have been in...
M: I'm Mark, I play bass, and I've been in HARD STANCE, GORILLA BISCUITS and now INSIDE OUT.
Z: I'm Zack, I sing, and I used to be in HARD STANCE.
V: I'm Vic, I play guitar, and I was in BEYOND.
Z: You skipped a few. GHASTLY 100...
V: (laughter) GHASTLY 1000. I was in BE-

NO SPIRITUA

Interview co

E O U T



YOND, GHASTLY 1000 and that's it. (more laughter)
BP: And Chris has been in every fuckin' band in California.
M: Just look in your record collection.
BP: O.K. Let's jump right into it. Spirituality...a heavy influence on your writing and lyrical style?
Z: Oh yea. I think it's got really everything to do with it. I mean, it's so incorporated into our expression, just being spiritual. I'd like to see it kind of overcome everything that we physically are. When I'm singing it, my heart's right in there, I feel like all the material barriers just don't matter anymore. All that matters is that my spirit is coming out and my emotions are coming out.
V: What I'd love to see happen , I'd love to see it open up. I'd love to see it open up so people could just be spiritual. It's such an easy thing, such a great thing. Zack knows the feeling when he's playing. It's so easy. You don't have to be so nervous about it, so uptight about it. I wish people would open up. It'd be great.
Z: People seem to have a hard time expressing themselves that way. What I'd like to be able to do is progress into not just doing it live, but doing it everywhere I go. Instead of... Half the time I'm preoccupied by a thousand things and I'd just like to be able to share that with people-without having to worry about all the expectations of other people and society. I'd like to be able to share that at all times. It seems like

L SURRENDER

ucted by Dennis

people aren't ready to deal with it, people aren't ready to share like that, but maybe we can accomplish something in that respect.

V: It really gets to me, it's frustrating Like a couple of the days passed I was just feeling the frustration intensely because like the cool thing to do lately is when someone wants to open up and be peaceful, try to live a peaceful life, try to be loving...just even mention the word love or spirit or soul or God or anything like that. It's just like the thing to do is to come right down on them and squish it. And it just frustrates the hell out of me, but the thing is and that I feel, and this is not bullshit talk to look hard in an interview, but I feel like the mouth will shoot off and they'll shoot off and shoot off and when they're done shooting off we'll still be here saying our thing. That's our song "Unbroken". We'll take it all because all you're slinging out at us is material stuff and we at least have some idea that we're spiritual. Not that we're like spiritual mona gurus or something like that, but we're trying to root ourselves in that, being spiritual. So I'd really like to see people just stop coming down on us so hard.

Z: Especially within the scene itself there's all this political noise in the background that people don't see and just word of mouth and rumours, shit gets around and it gets back to us and it's really fucking discouraging because we're trying to live what we say and really put out the energy that we have within us when other people are trying to...all this political shit that goes on behind me. It drives you to the point where you're just going, "Why? Why am I here doing this when I can just not have to deal with this whole political thing?" But, the reason we're here, I think, is just to break that whole thing down. The competitiveness and everything else. We're here because we feel that we're sharing from our insides and there's just nothing that can really bring us down. You just can't let it happen.

V: I want to say one more thing. I feel what Zack's saying is coming out of my mouth. I wanted to say I feel like all these ego stunts, there's so many fuckin' ego stunts in the scene and everybody's on

a trophy hunt, you know. And it's just not going to get you anywhere. It's just going to get you burned out. It's just like everybody else is getting burned out and turning rock 'n roll or whatever. It's just going to burn you out so give it up. Or get out, you'll get out anyway. The thing is, you have an inside and the inside makes you what you are so friggin' let it out. That's all we're trying to do. It's a tough thing to do because people are scared shit of it. Because for so long they've been fucked around . They've been fucked around by everybody; by parents, by priests, by this and that. So it's hard, but we're saying what else is there to do. What else? You got something better to do than friggin' live your spirit, live who you really are. What I'm hearing Zack say I agree with 1000%. I think it's really tight with the whole band.

BP: Have you guys always been so open or has it recently come upon you that you weren't scared to let your insides out? I guess that's where you got your name from, huh?

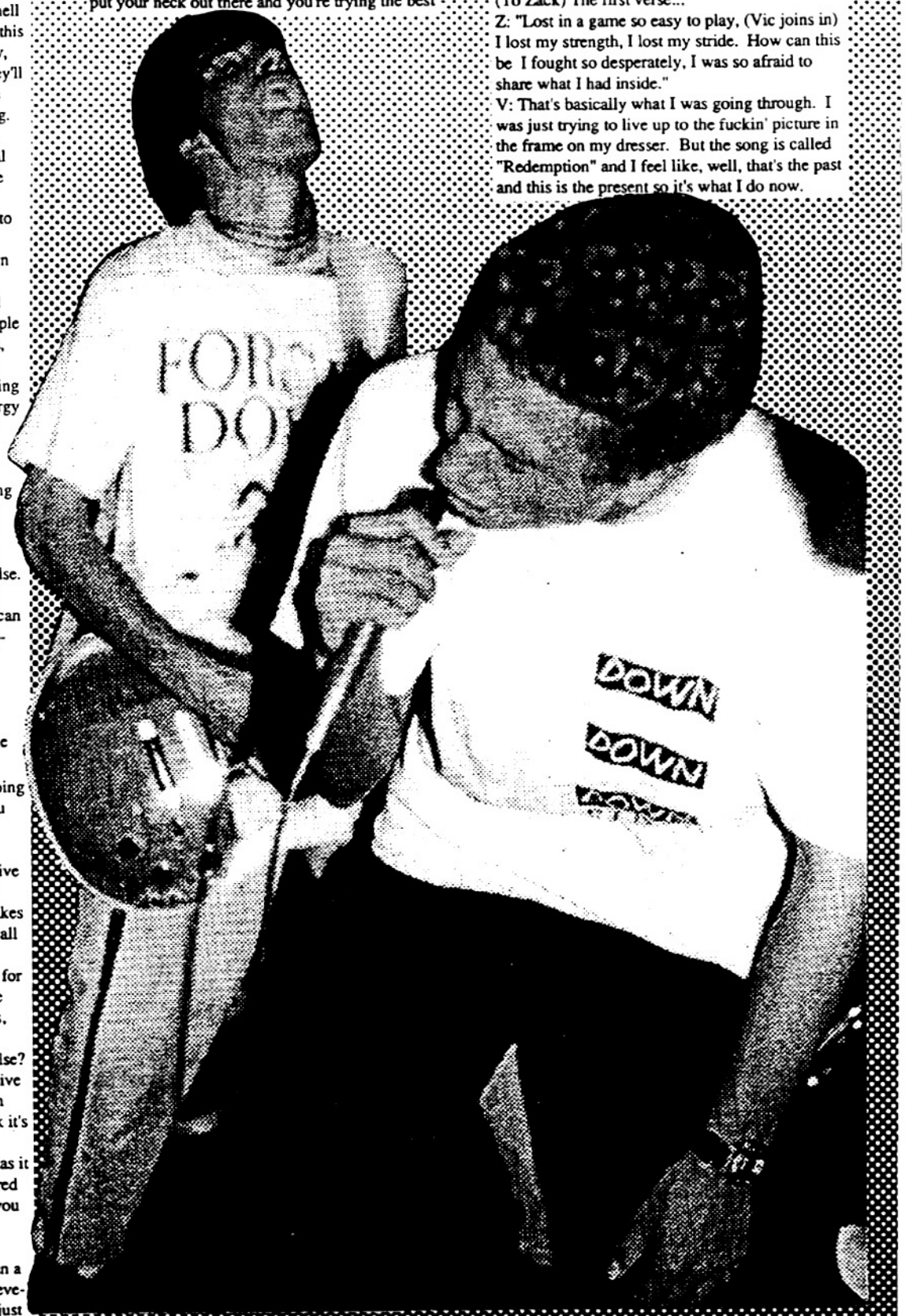
V&Z: Yeah.

Z: I don't know. I've always felt like I've been a little more emotional, like my emotions and everything else have been really on the surface, just in general, as a person. I've always held them in though, not shared them for a lot of reasons. Because I feel like people aren't ready to deal with them. It scares people when you're an emotional person, they feel that's a weakness. They feel you haven't adjusted properly if you're an emotional person and that's just a fucking lie. I mean, you take risks showing your emotions to other people, but you've got to risk something. The more you risk, the more you get out of life, the easier you can get hurt. But at least you've put your neck out there and you're trying the best you can to be yourself. I think I've always been that way, but through this band and through hardcore itself we're trying to break down all the stereotypes and preconceived ideas about other humans. I feel like now I've been able to share that with someone and hopefully people can see that in me and somehow they're inspired to do the same.

V: I've got a different story. I've still got remnants left over from my uptight days. That's why I really relate to our song "Redemption". (To Zack) The first verse...

Z: "Lost in a game so easy to play, (Vic joins in) I lost my strength, I lost my stride. How can this be I fought so desperately, I was so afraid to share what I had inside."

V: That's basically what I was going through. I was just trying to live up to the fuckin' picture in the frame on my dresser. But the song is called "Redemption" and I feel like, well, that's the past and this is the present so it's what I do now.



What Zack was saying about sticking out your neck, if you don't you can just sit through life. You can just sit back in your gray chair, your Eazy Boy chair and coast through life on auto pilot or you can (really) live. Otherwise it's just live and die. If you don't stick your neck out, who cares?

Z: You just fall in with the rest of the sheep. So many people aren't sticking their neck out. They just go by the paths that their parents or whoever else has set for them. And it's just like, O.K., put the suit on, go to work and just kind of live your little set life. You don't take risks, you don't experience. I've seen it happen to so many people, so many of my friends.

towards religion - now I'm sure that to you guys there's a difference between organized religion and the spirituality that you're talking about - just the whole

idea of following a certain faith point by point made me a little nervous because I felt that if you were to do that it would be like you were giving up yourself. But one of the things Vic said in his fanzine made me realize that everyone, in a sense, is religious. My religion just happens to be everything that I believe in.

V: That's what gets me when people say religion is poison or something like that. I always keep my mouth shut. I keep my mouth shut and swallow my friggin' whole life, but what I

point B and then dies. What kind of strength and what kind of creativity can you produce from that? I don't see it.

BP: I just want to get your comments on this. That other show at Spanky's...you guys have a song, part of which pertains to the homeless and you were trying to say something about it and some people either weren't listening or somebody was heckling it. How does that make you feel when you're trying to put across something and people are reacting that way?

Z: It's really, really frustrating. I go into some of these clubs and I see the kids, they're going off and they're screaming at the top of their lungs lyrics that mean so much to them. And I just

of hardcore in my opinion. But then again, we're there for us as well and if we're going to live the lyrics of "Unbroken" and what we state in that song we just have to ride through it just like every other band does when that situation occurs.

V: What I think when that happens is what are you doing at a hardcore show? If you just want to run around and start fights or bump into people, I think football is a great sport for you. As it is right now clubs don't paint gridirons on the floor and we don't bring footballs in. See, if you were playing football you wouldn't have to pretend about philosophy and straight edge and whatever you want to pretend about. You could

YOU WANT TO MAKE ME BOW DOWN TO YOU
AND GIVE UP MY IDENTITY
YOU WANT TO MAKE ME JUST ANOTHER
PEBBLE ON THE BEACH
A GREEN MIND TWISTS THE PLAN
A COLD HAND TRYS TO SILENCE ME
YOU REACH OUT TO GRASP ME
BUT I AM OUT OF REACH

NO SPIRITUAL SURRENDER
NO SPIRITUAL SURRENDER
NO SPIRITUAL SURRENDER
NO SPIRITUAL SURRENDER

V: And it's so tempting. To me, as a person, god it looks so easy. Everybody's doing it. And the other thing that just knocks me in the teeth is when somebody sticks their neck out, everybody goes (a noise resembling a bomb). "Oh look at this jerk, friggin' showing what he thinks inside. Oh what the hell's that, let's come down on him." You know? Who fucking cares about what you think about this guy. You're just thinking what every other sheep is thinking so go ahead, shoot off your mouth.

BP: Since I've been out here one of the things that I've started to look at a little bit differently is religion. When I came out here my attitude

should be saying is well, you're poisoning yourself. Cause for you to say anything about religion, isn't that based on religion? So isn't it religious? In other words if I say , "I don't like religion" - religion is a subject, it's religious. So how can you say "religion is poison" without making a religious statement. Which means you're making a poisonous statement. (Did you get all of that? - ed.)

Z: Why cut off a spiritual side of life. Why not reach for something like that, something beyond the fucking everyday. How cynical are you going to be when all you see yourself as is just another fucking ant that goes from point A to

don't understand why some kids are there because it's just another form of security. It's just another clique. For some reason they don't fit in as an athlete or whatever stereotype so they're there because it's just another form of social life. Which to an extent is O.K. because it's a lot more open in the scene, people are not always so judgemental, at least that's my opinion. But it's really frustrating.

I mean the rest of the show I felt low, I felt like, "why am I here? Why am I yelling at the top of my lungs?" Because my purpose there is to say, hey listen up and try to think about this, think about what we're saying. That's the whole point

just go and run into people. But here we're putting basically a hundred percent of what we've got into saying something and you don't want to hear it. So, we don't really have to describe what it feels like, you can just imagine it. You know, I'm trying to say something and you just won't listen. Everybody knows the experience. Just multiply it times ten thousand when you're trying to play a show.

Z: I'd like to leave it open. I don't want to bum out when people dance hard and everything because if they feel what we're saying and they feel the music that's what it's also about. That's what seperates it from going to Irvine Meadows

people here, let's do this. There's got to be something we can do to get their attention," and, "oh, who's going to play where on this bill? What's the line up tonight?"

BP: I've got to say this. I was at Ryan's (CHAIN OF STRENGTH) house when you called and I kind of know that you're concerned about the line up for this Sunday (a show that took place on Jan. 22nd with C.O.S., INSIDE OUT, CARRY NATION and FORCED DOWN).

Z: I am, yeah. I'm fucking wrong by even saying anything about it, but I don't feel that our effort can be wasted. It won't be, but it's just you play and play and you feel like you want to get somewhere. I can't say that I'm not guilty of it because I am, but that's how things are. It's unfair, I feel.

M: You work hard for something and you want to gain respect for it.

Z: I'm glad you brought that up because you just made me look in the mirror and that's cool. And now I'm not going to worry about it so much on Sunday. I'm a hypocrite to say I don't do it. I do and I have done it, but that's important. That's another thing that needs to be tossed from the scene and if I did it then I missed the point.

BP: It seems so many bands are competing against each other. Is it just an ego thing or...

Z: I'll tell you exactly what it is for me. We play and all that expression and everything else is, like, here's the competition (holds his hand down low to the ground) and here's where the expression is (holds his hand up high). It's just on a way higher level, and that's where the importance should be. But there's people who are fuckin' greedy and egotistical. And when someone comes in and uses the power or the connections or whatever that they have and try to push you down, it's kind of, like, well what the fuck's going on? It just doesn't seem fair that that happens, you know. If you'd just look at it in a fair and just way and try to do what's right, man. No one fuckin' does what is right. They're always doing whatever pushes them higher. People can't seem to do what's right. I hate myself for even playing the game but I play it, and I hope I quit it because I'm just adding to the problem. I'm not letting go of it. What I'd like to be able to do is let the people who want to be rock stars be rock stars and say what we've got to say regardless and mean it. And that's all that can be done. (Zack made some strong comments on Sunday, admitting his mistake and saying that he and INSIDE OUT would no longer get caught up in the competition mess and I respect him for that. - ed.)

V: That's the problem with this stuff. Even when you try to deal with it you just add more energy to it. So who knows what to do? I'd just rather forget it.

BP: I think that's the solution. I think, drop it, because all the bands are the ones who've got such a great chance to really get a message across and if time gets spent worrying about who's better than who... I mean, that doesn't matter.

V: Yeah. If you have a chance to touch somebody's soul, (why) care about the line up and who's name is in lights on the billboard. Who cares?

Z: It's not hardcore, man. But that's how things are going. I mean, look at how commercial this hardcore scene has become and how much more money, you look at the money being poured into the scene (and) you see where the corruption lies. It's right there in front of us. A lot of the bigger labels are coming in and, in a lot of ways, exploiting the bands and exploiting what has to be said because there's an audience and there's people that are forking it out. There's people that are forking out to buy the records and everything else.

BP: I think the hardcore scene's got a big challenge to face within the next couple of years. Money might be the cancer of the hardcore scene because now bands know you can get a fucking $10,000 contract from Hawker or Caroline or whatever and some might be like, "well, shit, what are we even doing? These kids are just dumb dopes, let's go make some money."

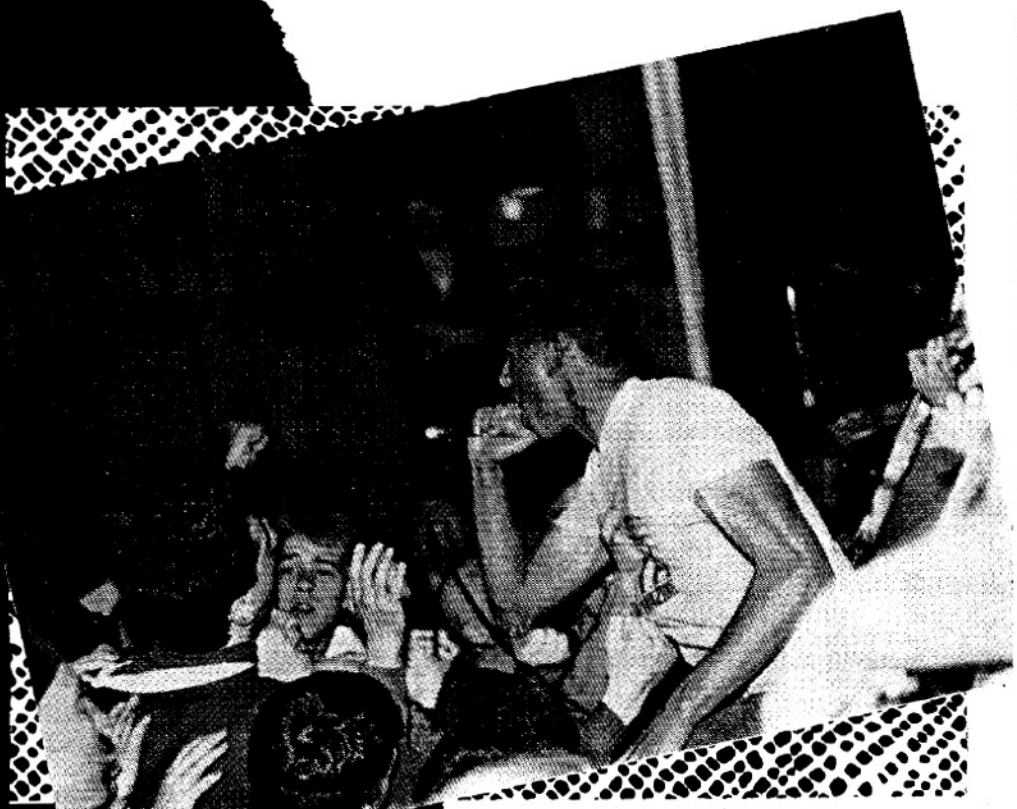
V: Exactly.

Z: But there's also another side to it, too. And that is that even though these bigger labels are exploiting the scene...I'm not arguing that. I definitely believe that that's what's happening. But it's also opening the doors. Some of the smaller independants

can't provide what can be done (by major labels), like traveling and maybe being able to express (yourselves) to other people. But, it's a tough situation. It's like the apple off the tree that's right there and someone's going, "eat it man, you'll get this far." I don't know. It's a hard question.

V: It might sound like an easy way out to answer this question, but if you're sincere and if you really want to get your message out to people and you really think about what label you're going to be on. And you choose a big label cause you're going to go to Europe to spread your message, more power to you. The thing is it all comes down to honesty. To me it doesn't come down to are you on a big label? Are you on a small label? What I question is what are you trying to do on your label? If





Burning Fight

I reach out my hand
and you turn the other way
I'm only trying to extend myself
to communicate.
I try & try & try
there's no response from you
so no I refuse to waste my time on you.

I refuse to let myself down
by falsely putting judgment on you
to make myself look higher
only to be knocked down by the truth

I will never choose a different path
I will never turn away from you

your attitude is an example of this
which has become for me a Burning Fight
not to change your opinion of me
but to try to help you see what's right

I will never choose a different path
I will never turn away from you
I will never choose a different path
I will never fucking be like you
this is my Burning Fight.

you're on a small label to look really, like, old school hardcore, fuck you, who cares? If you're on a small label because you're into what that message is, all the power to you. That's the thing. I don't really see this label's bad, that label's good. It's the band that's bad or good

BP: So what are your recording plans? What are you going to end up doing?

V: We're going to record a 90" (laughter)

BP: You guys do have a lot of songs.

Z: We're going to record next week, like a five song demo and we're going to shop it around and see who's interested and just go with that. I hate to put any kind of emphasis on it because it's not that important.

V: There'll be stuff out soon, some way or another. I don't know. We've got to see how the album comes out. Right now it's just such a live thing. INSIDE OUT is a live band. We'll see how the album comes out, maybe it'll be an awesome album. I think it will be. But come check us out live. That's really where the emotion is going on. It's so easy to get a record and put it in with the rest of your albums, but when you come (to a live show) it's kind of harder to do that when the emotion is in the room.

BP: I hear that you guys have kind of got a tunnel vision towards Revelation. Am I right about that?

Z: It's in the works. We've been talking with Jordan. Mark has actually talked to Jordan a couple of times and he said that he would do the 12". We're going to send a tape out to him.

M: If it happens, it happens.

BP: You know about Revelation having so many releases that they're working on.

V: There's pros and cons to everything.

Z: What we're going to do is...

M: We're going to ask questions.

Z: Right. We're going to get a tape out to him so he has an idea of what we're about.

M: And then we can talk.

Z: And then we're going to see how many releases. I mean, we definitely want to get something out before the summer. That's the bottom line.

BP: That was going to be my next question. Is it more important to get your record out there, get your lyrics out there instead of waiting around for Revelation?

Z: Definitely.

V: It is to me. That's why I'm so psyched that we're even doing the tape because we can not only send it out to record labels, but we can dish it around.

Z: Yeah, we're going to circulate it as a demo too. We're just going to see what we can do (that's) best for the band and get it out before the summer. If it's not going to happen with Revelation then that's just not going to happen. We're not concerned with it. We want to tour this summer. That's our main goal, I think, as far as that's concerned.

BP: We were talking before about how being involved with this music and being involved in this scene has had the most influence on our lives. That we've gotten so much from it. What I want to know is how does the media and politics affect you guys, if at all?

V: Outside of the scene?

BP: Yeah.

V: God damn. I try to make it affect me the least that I can do. I don't watch any of that shit and I don't read any of that shit. We had a song about it called "Blind Oppressor." This stuff is an oppressor forcing you into some certain mold. It's blind; it doesn't care who you are, what you're into or what you think. So why should I even taste it? I know it's poison. It's sappy to say poison because I hate when people say poison, but...

Z: Just growing up, I remember a time when I was young and I didn't have any preconceived ideas about stuff. I was just an open minded person. I felt like I didn't have any prejudices or I wasn't judgemental. I just loved and I just shared with people and I had friends. It just didn't seem to matter. But as I got older, like I got into high school and all these cliques... Being accepted was such an important thing (and) that just fucking twisted my head. And TV does it everyday. I mean, how many people do really look like the people on TV? Certain people are choosing what they seem to think are model humans. If that isn't a nazi ideal, I don't know what is. Just realizing that my mind has definitely been affected by what media has been trying to project on me is a step in the right direction because I can see now that... Look what's going on. Look how I'm looking at everybody. The line in the song goes, "Blind Oppressor look what you have done. Influenced my mind now I stereotype everyone." It's amazing how subconsciously you take in those messages and you accept them as right because the masses accept them as right. You've got to break free from that in some way because it's amazing what it can do and what kind of an influence it can have on your life.

V: You know, it's sick. I rent a room in this other family's house and I leave to go to school

AS WOMEN WE NEED TO QUIT THINKING THAT TO GAIN EQUALITY WE NEED TO WORK THROUGH MEN. WE

and suck my dick baby, maybe you can help end the war) she's simply rebelling against the guilt ridden mother figure she sees - only to become as guilty and manipulative herself. She's constantly struggling to find love, with a firm misunderstanding that sex is synonomous with it.

Both these "good girl" and "bad girl" personas can be reactions to sexual abuse as well as day to day sexist reinforcement. Either how valueless their sex is so they may as well throw it away to anyone or how valuable it is therefore preserve it no matter if that means repressing your true desires.

I believe that if the oppression of women was entirely male it would have been erradicated by now. Unfortunately, we have bought the commodity called sexism because on the short term it is the easiest and most familiar product. We help enforce our own domination. Our endless struggle to achieve male accepted beauty (and outshine our competition) is just one small part of the circle. Women forsake comfort and practicality to spend hours in front of the mirror applying loads of goop and make up, squeeze their bodies into the latest fashions, slam our feet into a pointy shoe at a ninety degree angle not caring if we throw a disk in our backs as long as John Q. Public from down the street sees how pretty we are. What we see as vanity isn't that at all. It's an insecure grappling for approval and acceptance - the same as machoism.

Men feel in control when they can shape and mold us. They tell us we're worthless and repulsive (and watch us believe it!) if we have a zit, aren't thin enough, don't shave our legs etc. A woman who refuses these standards can be easily ostrasized as ugly or a dyke and consequently worthless. Other women must agree for to applaud the defiant woman's actions would subject them to ridicule. It also re-enforces their own behavior as correct.

Women's main downfall in fighting sexism is competition. Ah, come on, we're not competitive, right? That's one of those silly masculine traits we secretly make fun of together at lunch. But we're constantly competing with other women. We're taught early on about those "bad girls" - the mistresses and man stealers. This is a terrible threat to us, real or imagined, since it is from men that we attain our self worth. So we learn to be bitchy and catty. We gossip in the attempt to undermine other women and make ourselves look better. We constantly ask men, "am I pretty?", "do you love me?", "were you looking at her?"

This is not only self-defeating it's terribly sad. Many women go through life no being able to have a close relationship with either sex. With men we play the role they give us, so afraid are we they may leave us. With women we play another, so afraid are we they may outshine us. And we're taught to be victims.

While little boys are encouraged to try things, and when they fall down, to get back up and try again - little girls are told to stay inside because we might get hurt. We're taught to set ourselves up as victims and accept our victimization. Not only accept it, but in fact think it's our fault.

Men are taught to take without asking if they want something badly enough. In extreme cases if that means someones life or will then so be it. Boys will be boys, right? I think may men resent their position as leader and master as much as they enjoy it - some of their bad treatment of women stems from an actual jealousy. Men often think we have it really easy. We don't have to initiate relationships, we can change our minds, we can cry. Men put themselves in a position of supreme dominance then resent us for expecting it from them.

Where the fuck did anyone get the idea that women don't have it rough? How many women have died from sexism? Think about that a moment if you're tempted to say none! What about witch burnings, male destruction of any matriarchal society in history, assasinations of suffragettes and wife beatings to name a few things. Sexism is analagous to racism yet how many times have I heard men go off on nazis and white supremacists only to turn around and say some, "that chick's hot, I want to get some pussy" garbage? How are we going to learn to get along with people of all races and cultures without erradicating prejudice against women.

This society is, obviously, based on a male power regime. Rape has to do with a need for power not sexual desire. Men who rape other men in prison do not usually consider themselves homosexuals, they simply want to attain that feeling of power that comes from degrading and humiliating someone. The same applies in men who rape women. Rape is violence that stems from hatred not lust.

Because of our need to see women as pure and without sex drives we say that men rape (and this is especially true in situations of date rape) because of their intense sexual desires which we as women can't understand. Contradictorily, we say that women provoke rape by being too "sexy". So how can we be simultaneously sexy and sexless?

Women spend their lives struggling to be two opposite things at once. If we keep our intelligence under wraps, we're typical "dumb" girls. If we expose it we're loud, domineering bitches. If we act passive we'll be taken advantage of, if we become assertive we'll be somehow beaten into submission. If we don;t have sex we're prude or queer, if we do we're sluts. We're told our prettiness is our only asset, then we're assaulted and told it's our fault for looking good. Then we get told menstruation is a curse, passivity is feminine, autonomy is masculine, anger, possesiveness and competition are the true signs of love, and we'll call lust romance. This is all so confusing, is it a wonder women have kept quiet and remained the silent sex for so long?

I, for one, am tired of being "kept in line". I'm tired of an exploitative media and its advocacy of sexual stereotypes. I'm tired of this "women should be seen and not heard" mind set. It's time we were heard. Believing that just because we can now work the same job as a man we're liberated is short sighted and ultimately damaging. Hey, we still average 60 cents on the male dollar plus we're still expected to go home, clean the house, take care of the kids, make dinner and cater

OUR SELVES STEREOTYPES. REFUSE THAT WAY

BELIEVE THAT TRUE EQUALITY WILL COME

WHEN MEN BEGIN TO VIEW US AS EQUALS BUT WHAT WILL THAT MATTER WHEN WE DON'T VIEW

to the man that's been at the office all day.

The women's liberation movement made a fatal mistake. Instead of working for an equality that both sexes had to change and work for, women simply adopted shitty behavior that until then had been considered masculine. Yes, now you too can be that cruel employer, smoke six packs of cigarettes a day (you've come a long way, baby) and consider insensitivity an asset in the workplace. And yes, now you to can get high blood pressure and a perforated ulcer.

Swell. I mean just look at smoking (a habit I myself am guilty of). Women used to not be allowed to smoke, now there are more women smokers than men, more women dying of lung cancer than men. Token allowances don't make up equality - attitudes must change. We need to quit defining feminine and masculine. We don't need new definitions, we need to realize that we're women therefore we are feminine. This applies whether you're the "happy homemaker" or some "butch man-hating feminist." Femininity should not be a bad word connotating weakness. We need to accept ourselves as women, as valid human beings and see the beauty in that.

The world does not need more totalitarianism and that includes what we've come to know as "feminism". We need to be humanists. Remember, little boys aren't born seeing women as beneath them, they're taught it - as much by their mothers as their fathers.

It's now that we must fight for our rights and not blindly accept the idea that we're now treated equally by society when everything points to the contrary. Complacency is the nail in our coffins - sometimes literally.

As women we need to quit thinking that to gain equality we need to work through men. We believe that true equality will come when men begin to view us as equals but what will that matter when we don't view ourselves that way.

Refuse the stereotypes, do not accept a role if it is not one you want to play. I know it isn't always the easiest way, but as far as I'm concerned anything is better than living our whole lives in fear. Fear of the past, present and future. Fear that he may leave us, fear that he may stay. Fear that we're not lovable or that we don't love enough. Fear of walking down the street by ourselves, fear of rape and other violence, and fear of the guilt that inevitably follows when everyone subtly (or blatantly) lets us know it's our fault.

I am afraid, but I will not be intimidated anymore. I have spent the last six years of my life trying to come to terms with the fact that I was - on two seperate occasions - raped. You know, that's even hard to write down. But dammit, I will not be ashamed anymore. I didn't do anything wrong.

If you have been raped - IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT! It doesn't matter what you were wearing or if you were drunk - if you say no, if someone has intercourse with you against your will, NO MATTER WHAT - it's rape. An act of tremendous violence has been committed against you - unfortunately it's something that will always be with you. But you can come to terms with it, you can keep living. I cannot let my victimization ruin me. That's what they want. If I hate men forever, if I isolate myself forever, they win. They've succeeded in destroying me. I've given them that power. We've got no control over someone elses actions but we do (yes we do) have control of our own. Your life, your mind, your body - it's yours. If, for some reason or another, someone violates these don't give up on yourself. Don't give yourself up. You have power, your feelings, your emotions are valid.

There is so much I want to say and not enough paper or words or time. I am angry and anxious for a larger group of people to take action. Let's quit being what we're supposed to be (this is men and women) and start being what we are. We are a society of humans that need one another to survive. Everyone counts, and everyone deserves to be respected and treated as if they do. Stop blaming women for male violence. Stop blaming men for not understanding our coded messages. Stop blaming and start taking action.

Yeah, we need to get angry. Not the sort of anger that provides excuses for hatred, but the sort of anger that motivates. We need to get angry enough to change ourselves, to honestly examine our motivations, our conditioning. Angry enough to quit lying and taking the easy way out. Angry enough to, well...break the idea of Adam's rib.

end

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